

Tennessee State Judges – Diversity

156 state trial-level judges

15 African American/ 9.6 percent

12 of 15 are in the 30th judicial district – 80 percent

3 are outside of 30th judicial district – 1.92 percent of total judges

0 outside of 20th and 30th judicial district

0 Hispanic

0 Asian

State Population Characteristics

Population Estimate: 6,770,010

Increase since 2010: 6.7 percent

White alone, not Hispanic: 73.7 percent

Black alone: 17.1 percent

Hispanic: 5.6 percent

Asian: 1.9 percent

Two more races: 2.0 percent

Female: 51.2 percent

Percent of African-Americans in TN Counties

Shelby	53.1	Chester	9.3	Anderson	4.2
Haywood	50.1	Knox	9.1	McMinn	4.1
Hardeman	41.7	Bedford	8.2	Bledsoe	4.0
Madison	37.3	Henry	8.2	Marion	4.0
Lauderdale	35.1	Weakley	8.0	Morgan	3.9
Davidson	28.1	Henderson	7.8	Coffee	3.7
Lake	28	Robertson	7.8	Hardin	3.7
Fayette	27.8	Lincoln	7.0	Warren	3.5
Hamilton	19.9	Sumner	6.9	Decatur	3.1
Montgomery	19.4	Marshall	6.8	Houston	3
Tipton	18.7	Wilson	6.7	Blount	2.9
Gibson	18.5	McNairy	6.1	Humphreys	2.8
Dyer	14.6	Wayne	6.0	Roane	2.7
Crockett	13.5	Franklin	5.2	Moore	2.5
Rutherford	13.5	Hickman	4.9	Benton	2.4
Maury	12.3	Bradley	4.7	Jefferson	2.4
Obion	10.9	Williamson	4.6	Johnson	2.3
Carroll	10.7	Hamblen	4.5	Monroe	2.3
Giles	10.3	Dickson	4.3	Putnam	2.3
Trousdale	9.4	Washington	4.3	Sullivan	2.3

Racially Diverse Judges

Name	Race	Type	Location	Year Joined TJC
Carolyn Wade Blackett	Female/African American	Criminal Court	30 th Jud District	1994
Lee Coffee	African American	Criminal Court	30 th Jud District	2006
Angelita Dalton	Female/African American	Criminal Court	20 th Jud District	2017
Walter Evans	African American	Chancellor	30 th Jud District	1998
Gina Higgins	Female/African American	Circuit Court Judge	30 th Jud District	2010
Joe Dae Jenkins	African American	Chancellor	30 th Jud District	2016
Felicia Johnson	Female/African American	Circuit Court Judge	30 th Jud District	2014
Kelvin Jones	African American	Circuit Court	20 th Jud District	2014
Yolanda Kight	Female/African American	Circuit Court	30 th Jud District	2018
Jennifer Mitchell	Female/African American	Criminal Court	30 th Jud District	2018
Russell Perkins	African American	Chancellor	20 th Jud District	2008
Jerry Stokes	African American	Circuit Court	30 th Jud District	2005
Monte Watkins	African American	Criminal Court	30 th Jud District	2003
Karen Webster	Female/African American	Probate	30 th Jud District	2006
Glenn Wright	African American	Criminal Court	30 th Jud District	2013

Gender Diversity

40 female judges – 25 percent

8 female/African American – 5.12 percent

18 of 31 judicial districts have at least one female judge

6 of 31 judicial districts have more than one female judge

2 judicial districts have more than two female judges

Name	Gender	Type	Location	Year Joined TJC
Elizabeth Asbury	Female	Chancellor	8 th Jud District	2014
Jill Ayers	Female	Circuit Court	19 th Jud District	2015
Cheryl Blackburn	Female	Criminal Court	20 th Jud District	1996
Carolyn Wade Blackett	Female/African American	Criminal Court	30 th Jud District	1994
Melissa Blevins	Female	Chancellor	12 th Jud District	2018
Beth Boniface	Female	Circuit Court	3 rd Jud District	2015
Martha Brasfield	Female	Chancellor	25 th Jud District	1998
Jerri Bryant	Female	Chancellor	10 th Jud District	1998
Clara Byrd	Female	Circuit Court	15 th Jud District	1998
Nichole Cantrell	Female	Chancellor	7 th Jud District	2014
Angelita Dalton	Female/African American	Criminal Court	20 th Jud District	2017
Kristi Davis	Female	Circuit Court	6 th Jud District	2014
Sandra Donaghy	Female	Criminal Court	10 th Jud District	2014
Pam Fleenor	Female	Chancellor	11 th Jud District	2014
Kathleen Gomes	Female	Probate	30 th Jud District	2013
Stella Hargrove	Female	Circuit Court	22 nd Jud District	1998
Tammy Harrington	Female	Circuit Court	5 th Jud District	2011
Gina Higgins	Female/African American	Circuit Court Judge	30 th Jud District	2010
Amy Hollars	Female	Circuit Court Judge	13 th Jud District	2008
Rynette Hurd	Female/African American	Circuit Court Judge	30 th Jud District	2010
Vanessa Jackson	Female	Circuit Court Judge	14 th Jud District	2009
Deanna Johnson	Female	Circuit Court Judge	21 st Jud District	2014
Felicia Johnson	Female/African American	Circuit Court Judge	30 th Jud District	2014
Yolanda Kight	Female/African American	Circuit Court	30 th Jud District	2018
Suzanne Lockert-Mash	Female	Circuit Court	23 rd Jud District	2014
Ellen Lyle	Female	Chancellor	20 th Jud District	1995
Anne Martin	Female	Chancellor	20 th Jud District	2018

Amanda McClendon	Female	Circuit Court	20 th Jud District	2006
Jennifer Mitchell	Female/African American	Criminal Court	30 th Jud District	2018
Pat Moskal	Female	Chancellor	20 th Jud District	2019
Kathryn Olita	Female	Circuit Court	19 th Jud District	2018
Lisa Rice	Female	Criminal Court	1 st Jud District	2014
Paula Skahan	Female	Criminal Court	30 th Jud District	2004
Jennifer Smith	Female	Criminal Court	20 th Jud District	2018
Valerie Smith	Female	Circuit Court	30 th Jud District	2016
Deborah Stevens	Female	Circuit Court	6 th Jud District	2013
Jean Stanley	Female	Circuit Court	1 st Jud District	1998
Mary Wagner	Female	Circuit Court	30 th Jud District	2016
Karen Webster	Female/African American	Probate	30 th Jud District	2006
Marie Williams	Female	Circuit Court	11 th Jud District	1995